

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
MID - SUSSEX AREA

1968

# RURAL DISTRICT OF CUCKFIELD



by  
D. M. RICHARDSON  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.



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Charles Clarke (Haywards Heath) Ltd.  
1969

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# RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CUCKFIELD

## REPORT

OF

## THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Health Department,  
Oaklands,

Tel. No. Haywards Heath 50301

Haywards Heath.

July, 1969

*To the: Chairman and Members of the Cuckfield Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1968.

The corrected birth rate of 13.31 again fell slightly giving a natural increase in population of thirty-six as compared with seventy-six for the previous year.

The infant mortality rate of 17.66 was just below the national average for England and Wales (18.0). Due to a moderate increase in the still birth and early neonatal mortality rates, the perinatal mortality rate rose to 17.51 but the figure for Mid-Sussex as a whole (14.32), a more significant figure from the statistical point of view, was actually lower than last year (16.09).

There was one maternal death during the year giving a maternal mortality rate of 2.19, an entirely misleading figure when the total number of births (live and still) is less than 1,000.

The number of deaths due to cancer of the lung and bronchus (27) was the same as last year.

### IMMUNISATION—MID-SUSSEX AREA

During the year the following immunisations on children under 16 were carried out in the area :—

#### Triple Antigen:

Primary Injections	..	..	..	1,042
Reinforcing Injections	..	..	..	954

#### Diphtheria and Tetanus

Primary Injections	..	..	..	21
Reinforcing Injections	..	..	..	1,137

#### Diphtheria:

Primary Injections	..	..	..	—
Reinforcing Injections	..	..	..	44

<b>Tetanus:</b>				
Primary Injections	..	..	..	43
Reinforcing Injections	..	..	..	122
<b>Smallpox Vaccination:</b>				
Primary Vaccinations	..	..	..	929
Revaccinations	..	..	..	265
<b>Poliomyelitis:</b>				
Primary—oral vaccine	..	..	..	1,106
Reinforcing procedures	..	..	..	1,099
<b>Measles</b>				
Primary Vaccinations	..	..	..	1,489

### Immunisation in East Sussex

Statistics issued to the press by the Department of Health and Social Security, which for some reason or other have not been made available directly to the Local Health Department, showed that in respect of children born in 1967, the number immunised in East Sussex was substantially in excess of the average for the whole of England and Wales, as was the number of children under two who were vaccinated during 1968.

Approximately 60% of all immunisations and vaccinations in the county were carried out by general practitioners, and expressed as percentages, the figures for East Sussex and for England and Wales were: whooping cough 91 (76) ; diphtheria 93 (78) ; poliomyelitis 91 (74) ; and smallpox 49 (38).

### Influenza—Immunisation of Staff

The Council reconsidered this question and decided to make influenza immunisation available to all employees. In November monovalent vaccine (Hong Kong strain) was given to sixty-five members of the staff.

## INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX AND CHOLERA

During the year 1,720 certificates were authenticated by the Health Department.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

One hundred and forty-seven cases of infectious disease were notified during the year and, of the total notifications received, 106 were attributed to measles and ten to scarlet fever. There were nine cases of food poisoning, seven cases of infective jaundice and seven cases of dysentery.

### Food Poisoning at a Boys' Boarding School due to Infection with a Heat Resistant Strain of *Clostridium Welchii*

On Tuesday, 12th March, a family doctor responsible for the medical supervision of the pupils at a boys' school in the Rural District informed me that a large number of pupils at the school had been ill with diarrhoea and vomiting in the early hours of Monday morning. The doctor reported that suspicion appeared to be focused on a consignment of pork pies which had been provided for supper on the previous Sunday evening.

On visiting the school with the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector it soon became apparent, during interviews with the Bursar and the Matron, that the symptoms were primarily abdominal pain and diarrhoea and that although the illness was quite severe, having affected 75% of the Junior



School and 50% of the Senior School, it was of relatively short duration. The foregoing information indicated that it was highly probable that we were dealing with an infection caused by *Clostridium Welchii* and, when it was learned that roast beef had been served for lunch on Sunday, the inevitable question with regard to pre-cooking and re-heating of the meat was raised with the Catering Manager. At first we were told that the meat had been cooked early on Sunday morning but later this was denied and it was admitted that the several large joints of roast beef involved had been cooked the day before, sliced after cooling slowly, and then re-heated on the day of consumption.

On bacteriological examination, a high percentage of stool specimens from pupils affected by the illness revealed the presence of *Clostridium Welchii* and the organism was also isolated, in due course, from a remnant of the joint which had been retained under refrigeration.

The firm responsible for the catering at the school gave full co-operation throughout the investigation by the Health Department and the findings of the Public Health Laboratory were confirmed independently by the caterer's private laboratory.

Although many boys were affected only eight indicator cases were actually notified to the Health Department.

**Note:** *Clostridium Welchii* is a spore bearing organism which survives 1-4 hours' boiling. The organism is fairly widespread in nature, occurring in the stools of 2-5 per cent. of normal human beings. The organism has been isolated from up to 25 per cent. of raw meat samples from carcasses and up to 10 per cent. of samples from frozen boneless meat.

Prevention of this type of infection must be concerned far more with care over cooking and storage than with the human faecal excretor. As a general rule meat, whether as cuts, or in pies or stews, should be thoroughly cooked and eaten hot. If this is impossible it should be cooled rapidly, within 1½ hours of cooking and refrigerated until required.

In any event there should be the shortest possible time between cooking and eating to limit the number of organisms. A small number of spores and bacteria will be harmless. It is only when the organism has been allowed to proliferate that the trouble will occur.

A delay in the distribution of meat sliced after cooking creates problems in mass feeding. To be safe it must be maintained either in the cold or at a temperature above 60 degrees C. (140 degrees F.) between slicing and distribution. The temperature of sliced meat maintained on top of a hot plate container at about 40-50 degrees C. (100-120 degrees F.) has proved to be ideal for the growth of *Clostridium Welchii* and considerable multiplication can occur in two or three hours. Safety measures may also depend on the size and the shape of the joint, for large masses of meat, when rolled, are not easily penetrated by heat, and meat, originally contaminated on the surface with *Clostridium Welchii*, may have the organisms rolled into the centre. Larger joints also take longer to cool and the size of individual cuts is best limited to about 6lbs.

### **Salmonella Infection at a South London Hospital (*Salmonella* Oranienburg)**

On the 27th May the Medical Officer of Health of Lambeth reported that he had been informed of a *Salmonella* outbreak at a hospital within his area. It would appear that the first case, a hospital cook, had been diagnosed on 16th April. Many other cases had occurred subsequently but the Medical Officer of Health had not been informed until some weeks after the original diagnosis had been made.

Furthermore, during the intervening period many of the patients had been sent down to the country branch of the hospital in the Rural District for convalescence. The Medical Officer of Health of Lambeth and I agreed that anyone who had been at the hospital in London from the 8th April onwards should be screened. In due course specimens were submitted to the laboratory from twelve patients who were due for discharge from the convalescent home at the end of the week and some fifty names and addresses of patients who had been in hospital at the material time, but who had already left the conva-

lescent home, were forwarded to the Lambeth Health Department for investigation. Specimens were also submitted to the Public Health Laboratory by twenty-seven members of the nursing staff at the convalescent home.

It was possible to re-open the convalescent unit to patients from London in mid-June.

### **Sonne Dysentery**

Four cases occurred in the preparatory department of a boarding school in the Rural District. On the advice of the Health Department measures were taken to improve the standard of environmental hygiene within the school. No further cases of dysentery were reported.

### **Jaundice—Infective or Toxic ?**

During the past few years notification of Infective Hepatitis in this area has brought to light two cases of jaundice which might have been toxic in origin, in both instances the toxic hazard being associated with occupation.

The first incident involved the regular use by the victim of a chlorinated naphthalene spray for pest control in roof spaces without adequate personal protective equipment or clothing.

The second incident concerned the Manager of a Dry Cleaning Premises in which perchlorethylene and various volatile " spotting " agents were used for cleaning purposes. In neither case was it possible to prove with liver function tests that the jaundice was toxic in origin but the exercise did at least alert those concerned with medical care to the need for particular caution before allowing resumption of work.

In the second incident the Factory Inspector was informed with a view to having the premises monitored before the Manager returned to work.

*Note:* Under the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968, Infective Jaundice was made notifiable throughout England and Wales.

### **Salmonella in Terrapins (Water Tortoises)**

Following reports in the medical press on salmonella infection due to the keeping of terrapins in the home the Chief Public Health Inspectors throughout Mid-Sussex arranged for local pet shops to be visited with a view to the submission of water samples from terrapin tanks for bacteriological investigation. In due course the Public Health Laboratory reported the isolation of *Salmonella mikawasima* from a tank at one of the shops concerned. The situation was discussed with the proprietor who, on being told that there was no really effective method of reducing the risk to public health, decided to discontinue sale.

### **Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

#### **Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, Section 20—Brucellosis**

The Public Health Laboratory reported that following a weakly positive ring test, *brucella abortus* type 1 had been isolated from a sample of milk as a result of guinea pig inoculation. The farmer was visited and agreed to make arrangements for the immediate pasteurisation of all milk from the affected herd. In order that the Health Department should have effective control over the situation a formal notice was served the following day (22.5.68) on the farmer under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 containing the specific requirement that no milk from the farm concerned should be sold for human consumption unless it had been heat treated to our satisfaction.

On the 15th August it was possible to rescind the Notice following the receipt of satisfactory laboratory reports.



## HOUSING

Of the 306 dwellings included in the Slum Clearance Programme only four remain to be dealt with and these are occupied by elderly persons.

One hundred and six houses have been made fit by the owners and of these 42 were the subject of Improvement grants.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND BATHING POOLS

There is only one public swimming pool in the area under my supervision. This open-air pool is situated in the southern half of the district. Mains water is used for filling at the beginning of the season and is treated at the pool by pressure filters, aeration and chlorination.

Samples from the above, together with those obtained from swimming pools attached to private schools were submitted for bacteriological examination during the bathing season. In the comparatively rare instances in which samples fell below generally accepted standards advice was given and further samples taken until a satisfactory result was obtained.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

### Section 47:

This Section provides for the compulsory removal from their homes of elderly, infirm or incapacitated persons, who are not receiving proper care and attention. Such persons are often living on their own under poor and insanitary conditions and although it was not necessary to take formal action under this Section, several cases were investigated during the year.

## W.R.V.S. MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE

During 1968 a total of 7,482 meals was provided. Since the inception of this service in January, 1962, a total of 36,344 meals has been provided.

Great credit is due to the local W.R.V.S. for the administration and day-to-day running of this valuable service.

## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

During the year medical examinations were carried out for the following authorities:—

Cuckfield Urban District	..	..	..	..	5
Burgess Hill Urban District	..	..	..	..	1
East Sussex County Council	..	..	..	..	84

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I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Relf, Chief Public Health Inspector, for his help and co-operation in the work of the department and for the particulars which he has supplied for this report. I also wish to record my appreciation to other members of the staff for their loyal support during the year, particularly Mrs. Patten, my Secretary.

### Mr. F. G. Jones, M.B.E.

Following a serious illness, Mr. F. G. Jones retired prematurely at the end of September; Mr. R. S. Relf being appointed his successor as from the 1st October, 1968.

It was with deep regret that we learned of Mr. Jones' sudden death on the 29th May, 1969, after a brief retirement.

Mr. Jones was born in Pembroke in 1905. He joined the Cuckfield Rural District Council in 1931 from Plymouth and was appointed Chief

Public Health Inspector in 1936 when the combined post of Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector was divided.

Mr. Jones was the ideal rural district inspector. He had a healthy distrust of the litigious approach and dealt with the many problems peculiar to a rural district in his own inimitable way, relying primarily on his innate gifts of persuasion which were considerable. In 1946 Mr. Jones was awarded the M.B.E. for his work on rural water supplies. In his latter years he did much to stimulate an interest in the improvement of old property in the area with the assistance of improvement grants. With the encouragement of the Council, his work in this field alone was considerable and of lasting benefit to the community.

In conclusion I would like to thank members of the Council, particularly the Chairman and members of the Health and General Purposes Committee, for their support and also the officers and staff in other departments for their help during the year.

D. M. RICHARDSON,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i> .. .. .	D. M. Richardson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H., F.R.I.P.H.H. (Also <i>Medical Officer of Health to Cuckfield Urban and Burgess Hill Urban Districts</i> and <i>Medical Officer (Part-time) to East Sussex County Council</i> )
<i>Chief Public Health Inspector</i> .. .. .	F. G. Jones, M.B.E., F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i> (Retired 30.9.68)
<i>Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector</i> ..	R. S. Relf, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i> <i>Qualified Housing Manager</i> <i>Qualified Building Inspector</i> (Appointed <i>Chief Public Health Inspector</i> 1.10.68)
	B. P. Darking, M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i> (Appointed 1.11.68)
<i>District Public Health Inspectors</i> ..	H. Sharp, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i> J. F. Tucker, M.A.P.H.I. <i>Qualified Inspector of Meat and other Foods</i> <i>Qualified Smoke Inspector</i>
<i>Secretary to the M.O.H.</i> .. .. .	Mrs. W. M. Patten
<i>Clerks to the M.O.H.</i> .. .. .	Miss B. P. Rackham Miss S. Blanchard
<i>Secretary to the C.P.H.I.</i> .. .. .	Miss I. Robbins
<i>Clerk to the C.P.H.I.</i> .. .. .	Mrs. M. Wood (nee Denyer)

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### Summary of Statistics for the years:

	1966	1967	1968
Area of the District in Acres .. .. .	68,011	68,011	68,011
Population estimated to middle of year .. ..	35,470	35,950	37,110
Rateable Value .. .. .	£1,187,023 (at 1.4.66)	£1,243,121 (at 1.4.67)	£1,289,449 (at 1.4.68)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .. .. .	£4,935	£5,110	£5,300
Density of Population (persons per acre) .. ..	0.52	0.53	0.55
Number of Houses .. .. .	10,788	11,083	11,293
Birth Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population ..	14.76	14.22	13.31
Death Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population ..	8.58	8.44	9.67
Infant Mortality Rate .. .. .	10.50	4.30	17.66

## VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births							Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	229	197	426
Illegitimate .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	8	27
Total Live Births .. .. .							248	205	453
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude) ..							..	..	12.21
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (corrected) ..							..	..	13.31
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births .. .. .							..	..	5.96

Still Births										Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Total Still Births										1	3	4
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still births)										..	..	8.75
										Male	Female	Total
Total Live and Still Births				..	..	..	..	..	249	208	457	
Infant Deaths										Male	Female	Total
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age												
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	8	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	
Total										5	3	8
Infant Mortality Rates:												
(a)	All infants per 1,000 live births								..	..	17.66	
(b)	Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births								..	..	18.78	
(c)	Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births								..	..	0.00	
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age										Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	5	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	
Total										3	2	5
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births										..	..	11.04
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age										Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	
Total										2	2	4
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births										..	..	8.83
Perinatal Mortality										Male	Female	Total
Still Births and Deaths under 1 week										3	5	8
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births												
(a)	Cuckfield Rural								..	..	17.51	
(b)	Mid-Sussex Area								..	..	14.32	
Maternal Mortality												
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)										..	..	1
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births										..	..	2.19
Deaths										Male	Female	Total
All Causes										216	201	417
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude)										..	..	11.24
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (corrected)										..	..	9.67

TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1954-1968

Year	Esti- mated Popula- tion	Number of Births						Birth Rate	Number of Deaths			Death Rate	Infants' Deaths			Infant Death Rate	Natural Increase of Births over Deaths
		Legitimate			Illegitimate				M	F	Total		M	F	Total		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total										
1954	25,420	182	151	333	7	9	16	13.73	150	158	308	12.12	—	3	3	8.60	41
1955	25,920	163	145	308	4	7	11	12.30	148	160	308	11.88	4	3	7	21.94	11
1956	26,490	173	150	323	5	3	8	12.50	146	167	313	11.81	4	3	7	21.14	18
1957	27,270	159	166	325	6	4	10	12.28	140	150	298	10.93	—	6	6	17.91	37
1958	27,880	173	202	375	14	3	17	15.46	159	181	340	9.75	4	3	7	17.85	52
1959	28,750	207	191	398	13	6	19	15.51	147	172	319	9.09	4	4	8	19.18	98
1960	29,470	237	226	463	12	4	16	17.38	162	280	442	9.51	5	1	6	12.52	37
1961	30,470	236	240	476	8	4	12	16.66	177	187	364	10.27	2	3	5	10.25	124
1962	30,770	238	240	478	10	12	22	16.90	190	190	380	10.62	8	3	11	22.00	120
1963	31,000	276	224	500	10	11	21	18.49	220	201	421	11.40	3	3	6	11.52	100
1964	33,590	272	258	530	13	7	20	18.00	164	166	330	8.24	2	4	6	10.91	220
1965	34,980	245	225	470	13	20	33	15.81	191	168	359	8.41	1	1	2	3.98	144
1966	35,470	244	205	449	14	13	27	14.76	189	187	376	8.58	2	3	5	10.50	100
1967	35,950	224	214	438	10	17	27	14.22	202	187	389	8.44	2	—	2	4.30	76
1968	37,110	229	197	426	19	8	27	13.31	216	201	417	9.67	5	3	8	17.66	36



# CAUSES OF DEATH IN CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

Cause of Death	Sex	Total	Under 45	45-64	65-74	75 & over
Tuberculosis other than respiratory including late effects .. ..	M	1	—	1	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	1	—	—	—	1
Malignant neoplasm—stomach ..	M	3	—	1	2	—
	F	2	—	—	—	2
Malignant neoplasm—lung, bronchus	M	17	—	5	10	2
	F	10	1	4	3	2
Malignant neoplasm—breast ..	F	5	—	3	1	1
Malignant neoplasm—uterus ..	F	6	—	3	1	2
Leukaemia .. .. .	M	3	1	1	1	—
	F	2	—	—	1	1
Other malignant neoplasms, etc. ..	M	20	—	5	8	7
	F	14	1	9	1	3
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	F	2	—	—	—	2
Other diseases of nervous system, etc. .. .. .	M	3	2	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease ..	M	1	—	—	1	—
	F	3	—	—	1	2
Hypertensive disease .. .. .	M	6	—	1	2	3
	F	1	—	—	—	1
Ischaemic heart disease .. ..	M	63	1	14	23	25
	F	46	—	2	13	31
Other forms of heart disease ..	M	12	—	—	2	10
	F	17	—	—	—	17
Cerebrovascular disease .. ..	M	20	—	6	6	8
	F	31	—	6	7	18
Other diseases of circulatory system	M	14	—	3	3	8
	F	7	—	1	1	5
Influenza .. .. .	M	2	—	—	—	2
	F	4	—	—	—	4
Pneumonia .. .. .	M	11	1	—	3	7
	F	21	1	1	2	17
Bronchitis and emphysema .. ..	M	12	1	2	5	4
	F	2	—	1	—	1
Asthma .. .. .	F	1	—	—	1	—
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	3	—	1	1	1
	F	1	—	—	—	1
Peptic ulcer .. .. .	M	1	—	—	1	—
	F	2	—	—	—	2
Appendicitis .. .. .	M	1	—	1	—	—
	F	1	—	—	1	—
Intestinal obstruction and hernia ..	F	1	—	—	1	—
Other diseases of digestive system	M	2	—	1	1	—
	F	2	—	—	2	—
Nephritis and nephrosis .. ..	F	1	—	1	—	—
Complications of pregnancy, etc., excluding abortion .. .. .	F	1	1	—	—	—
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	M	2	—	1	1	—
	F	2	—	—	—	2
Congenital anomalies .. ..	M	2	2	—	—	—
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc...	M	3	3	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—
Other causes of perinatal mortality	F	1	1	—	—	—
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	M	1	—	—	—	1
	F	3	—	—	—	3
Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	M	6	5	1	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—
All other accidents .. .. .	M	5	2	—	—	3
	F	6	2	—	—	4
Suicide and selfinflicted injuries ..	F	3	—	3	—	—
All other external causes .. ..	M	1	—	—	—	1
<b>Totals:</b>	M=216 F=201	417	27	78	106	206

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CUCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

(i)	Diseases of the heart and circulatory system .. ..	170 (40.77%)
	(Ischaemic disease) .. ..	109 (26.14%)
(ii)	Cancer (all sites) .. ..	77 (18.47%)
	(Cancer of Lung and Bronchus) .. ..	27 (6.47%)
(iii)	Cerebrovascular disease .. ..	51 (12.23%)
(iv)	Respiratory diseases (including tuberculosis and influenza)	58 (13.91%)
	(Respiratory tuberculosis) .. ..	Nil

CAUSE OF DEATH IN INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

	Cause	Age
1.	Cerebral haemorrhage due to torn tentorium .. ..	20 minutes
2.	Prematurity (26 weeks gestation) .. ..	39 hours
3.	Prematurity. Respiratory distress syndrome .. ..	1 day
4.	Respiratory distress syndrome. Prematurity .. ..	1 day
5.	Respiratory distress syndrome. Prematurity .. ..	1 week
6.	Multiple congenital abnormalities (Edwards syndrome) ..	1 month
7.	Subdural haemorrhage. Infant banging her head against arm of chair. Misadventure. Inquest held 28.11.68 ..	8 weeks
8.	Toxaemia. Acute haemorrhagic pneumonia .. ..	5 months

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following Laboratories are utilised for the examination of specimens :  
Public Health Laboratory, Brighton  
Cuckfield Hospital Laboratory  
Public Analyst's Laboratory at Lewes

I would like to express my thanks to the Directors of the above Laboratories for their assistance, particularly Dr. J. E. Jameson, of the Brighton Public Health Laboratory, for his helpful advice on many occasions.

Ambulance Facilities

Cases of infectious disease are removed by one of the East Sussex County Council's ambulances stationed at Haywards Heath or Burgess Hill Ambulance Station.

Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases

Beds are available at Goddards Green Hospital and Foredown Hospital for the treatment of cases of infectious disease.

A table on page 18 gives particulars of admissions during the year.

Smallpox

The South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board state that cases of smallpox occurring in this district should be sent to the River Hospitals (Long Reach), Dartford, Kent.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

### Child Health Clinics:

<b>Ardingly</b>	.. ..	Hapstead Hall	1st and 3rd Thursday Dr. on 3rd Thursday
<b>Balcombe</b> ( <i>Weighing Centre only</i> )	.. ..	Church Hall	3rd Wednesday
<b>Bolney</b>	.. ..	Rawson Institute	4th Friday Dr. each session
<b>Copthorne</b>	.. ..	Village Hall	1st and 3rd Tuesday Dr. on 3rd Tuesday
<b>Crawley Down</b>	..	Village Hall	2nd and 4th Tuesday Dr. on 2nd Tuesday
<b>Horsted Keynes</b>	..	Parish Room	3rd Friday
<b>Hurstpierpoint</b>	..	Methodist Hall	1st and 3rd Wednesday Dr. each session
<b>Keymer</b>	.. ..	Congregational Church Hall	2nd and 4th Monday Dr. on 2nd Monday
<b>Scaynes Hill</b> ( <i>Weighing Centre only</i> )	..	Women's Institute Hall	2nd Thursday
<b>Slaugham</b>	.. ..	Village Hall, Handcross	3rd Monday Dr. each session
<b>West Hoathly</b>	.. ..	Village Hall	1st Tuesday Dr. each session
<b>Cuckfield</b> ( <i>Weighing Centre only</i> )	.. ..	Congregational Church Hall	2nd Friday
<b>Lindfield</b>	.. ..	Congregational Hall	1st and 3rd Tuesday Dr. on 1st Tuesday

### Clinics:

<b>Diphtheria Immunisation</b>	..	Methodist Hall, Hurstpierpoint Village Hall, Crawley Down	3rd Wednesday 2.15 p.m.  2nd Tuesday 2.15 p.m.
<b>Chest</b>	.. ..	Haywards Heath Hospital Cuckfield Hospital	Every Thursday 9.30 a.m. (by appointment) Thursday 2 p.m. Diagnostic
<b>Orthopaedic</b>	.. ..	B.R.C.S. (H.Q.) Paddockhall Road Haywards Heath	<i>Orthopaedist:</i> 2nd Tuesday 10.30 a.m.-1.0 p.m. <i>Physiotherapist :</i> Tuesday 10.30 a.m.-1.0 p.m. Friday 9.30 a.m.-1.0 p.m. 2.0 p.m.-4.30 p.m.

<b>Speech Therapy</b> ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic Oaklands Haywards Heath	Tuesday 9.15 a.m.-3.0 p.m. (by appointment)
	E.S.C.C. Clinic Mill Road, Burgess Hill	Mon. 1.30 p.m.-3.0 p.m. (by appointment)
	E.S.C.C. Clinic Royal George Road Burgess Hill	Mon. 9.0 a.m.-12 noon (by appointment)
<b>Child Guidance</b> ..	<b>East Grinstead:</b> Moat Road	Every Thursday (by appointment)
	<b>Lewes:</b> Castlegate House	Every Wednesday (by appointment)
	<b>Portslade:</b> Old Shoreham Road	Tuesday morning Thursday (by appointment)
	<b>Burgess Hill:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic Mill Road	Every Friday (by appointment)
	<b>Crowborough:</b> Mead House Beacon Road	Every Tuesday (by appointment)
<b>Eye Refractions</b> .. (School Children)	Haywards Heath Hospital	Every Friday morning (by appointment)
	Morley Street Clinic Brighton	Alternate Thursday mornings (by appointment)
<b>Dental</b> .. .. .	<b>Haywards Heath:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic Oaklands	By appointment
	<b>Burgess Hill:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic Royal George Road	By appointment
	<b>East Grinstead:</b> County Dental Clinic Moat Road	By appointment
<b>Minor Ailments</b> ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands Haywards Heath	As required
<b>Cancer Prevention</b> ..	<b>Haywards Heath:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic Oaklands	Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings as necessary (by appointment)
	<b>Burgess Hill:</b> E.S.C.C. Clinic Mill Road	Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings as necessary (by appointment)
	E.S.C.C. Clinic Royal George Road	Wednesday mornings and evenings as necessary (by appointment)
	<b>East Grinstead:</b> Moat Road	Wednesday mornings and evenings as necessary (by appointment)
<b>*Family Planning</b> ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic Oaklands	Every Wednesday 2 p.m.-4 p.m.
	Haywards Heath	Dr. each session (by appointment)

**Venereal Diseases** .. Facilities available at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton

**Women** .. Tuesday .. 4 p.m.-7 p.m.  
Thursday .. 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

**Men** .. Monday .. 4 p.m.-7 p.m.  
Wednesday .. 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Thursday .. 2 p.m.-5 p.m.

**Men and Women** Friday .. 11 a.m.

Urgent cases only  
(By appointment direct to V.D. Clinic)

New patients must attend 1 hour before clinic closes

\*These Clinics are provided by the Family Planning Association

## CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

Disease	Total	Under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	Over 25
Acute Meningitis .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Acute Encephalitis .. .. (Infective)	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning .. ..	9	—	—	—	6	3	—
Dysentery .. ..	7	—	—	1	4	—	2
Infective Jaundice .. ..	7	—	—	3	1	1	2
Scarlet Fever .. ..	10	—	1	6	1	2	—
Measles .. ..	106	1	28	38	25	12	2
Whooping Cough .. ..	6	2	2	2	—	—	—
Totals: .. ..	147	3	31	50	38	19	6



## COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS

Year	New Cases						Deaths						Number on Register at end of Year					
	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1948	12	9	21	2	2	4	7	5	12	—	1	1	59	51	110	27	34	61
1958	8	5	13	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	94	71	165	10	12	22
1959	6	1	7	1	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	96	70	166	11	13	24
1960	3	4	7	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	95	76	171	11	11	22
1961	5	1	6	1	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	97	74	171	12	11	23
1962	2	4	6	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	96	77	173	11	12	23
1963	3	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	96	75	171	9	10	19
1964	2	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	89	61	150	7	11	18
1965	5	1	6	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	89	65	154	7	11	18
1966	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	87	62	149	7	11	18
1967	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	82	54	136	6	11	17
*1968	4	2	6	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	84	57	141	7	12	19

\* **Respiratory Tuberculosis.** Of the four males affected, one was aged 26, two were in the age group 55-65 and the remaining case was 70 years. Of the two females affected, one was 19 and the other 59.

**Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis.** Two cases were recorded—one in which the cervical glands were involved (male) and one affecting the thoracic spine (female). Both cases were aged 35 years.

# GODDARDS GREEN HOSPITAL, HASSOCKS AND FOREDOWN HOSPITAL, PORTSLADE

Thirty-nine cases were admitted to hospital from the Mid-Sussex area for observation and/or treatment in connection with known, or suspected, infectious diseases :—

Disease	Goddards Green Hospital	Foredown Hospital
Food Poisoning .. .. .	2	—
Food Poisoning (Salm. bredeney Carrier) ..	—	1
Sonne Dysentery .. .. .	—	1
Observation Dysentery .. .. .	—	1
Diarrhoea and Vomiting .. .. .	1	1
Observation Diarrhoea .. .. .	—	1
Gastro-enteritis .. .. .	—	1
Virus Meningitis .. .. .	—	1
Encephalitis (Infective) .. .. .	—	1
Tonsillitis .. .. .	—	1
Vincent's Angina .. .. .	1	—
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	1	—
Measles .. .. .	—	2
Measles and Epistaxis .. .. .	—	1
Measles and Laryngeal Oedema .. .. .	—	1
Chickenpox .. .. .	—	2
Whooping Cough .. .. .	1	1
Mumps .. .. .	3	—
Glandular Fever .. .. .	2	—
Observation Glandular Fever .. .. .	—	1
Jaundice .. .. .	2	—
Observation Infective Jaundice .. .. .	—	1
Influenza .. .. .	1	—
Observation Scabies .. .. .	—	1
Herpes Zoster .. .. .	1	—
Pyrexia Uncertain Origin .. .. .	—	1
Observation .. .. .	1	—
Tuberculosis .. .. .	2	—
Observation Tuberculosis .. .. .	1	—
Totals: ..	19	20

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Mr. R. S. Relf, Chief Public Health Inspector, has furnished the following report on the sanitary supervision of the district.

### WATER SUPPLY

As the following table will show, over 99% of houses and shops are connected to the public main or a private service—the district is well served in this respect.

Parish	No. of premises	Premises with piped supply	
		No.	Estimated population
Albourne .. .. .	217	215	699
Ardingly .. .. .	501	501	1722
Balcombe .. .. .	580	576	1895
Bolney .. .. .	389	387	1304
Clayton .. .. .	627	627	2364
Cuckfield Rural .. .. .	795	792	2310
Fulking .. .. .	113	102	344
Horsted Keynes .. .. .	461	461	1320
Hurstpierpoint .. .. .	1932	1924	6521
Keymer .. .. .	2052	2052	6314
Lindfield Rural .. .. .	618	618	2084
Newtimber .. .. .	43	43	153
Poynings .. .. .	109	107	319
Pyecombe .. .. .	89	89	384
Slaugham .. .. .	725	722	2076
Twineham .. .. .	90	90	286
West Hoathly .. .. .	574	574	2181
Worth .. .. .	2097	2072	5880
Totals ..	12012	11952	38156

Samples are regularly submitted by the Department for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination. This supplements the regular routine monthly (or more frequent) programme of the Water Undertakers themselves (Brighton Corporation, East Surrey and Mid-Sussex). None of the sources is plumbo solvent in character and filtration and chlorination is practised as a routine safeguard.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

### PERSONNEL

During most of 1968, staff shortage resulted in some curtailment of the usual pattern of routine inspections. (With a deficiency of one inspector for certainly eight months during 1969 this trend will continue).

With the general higher than average increase in population continuing, and more legislative provisions to be covered—which, because of better publicity, the populace is more aware of its "rights" and in consequence more liable to "complain"—the year has not been without its problems.

However, by means of a certain degree of selectivity, all urgent problems have been dealt with expeditiously. Some 4,200 visits were made by members of the Department.

## FOOD AND DRUGS AND FOOD HYGIENE ETC. LEGISLATION

### Milk Supply

Fifty-nine representative herd samples of untreated milk taken at farms were examined for the presence of *Brucella abortus*, *M. tuberculosis* and antibiotic content. With one exception all samples were reported upon as satisfactory. Four samples of fresh cream (from retail shops) satisfied the usual bacteriological requirements.

Schools are supplied exclusively with pasteurised milk.

### Food Inspection

Partly found during inspection of food premises and partly as a result of trade requests for examination of doubtful items, the voluntary surrender of the following foodstuffs was accepted as unfit for human consumption.

<b>From Wholesale Stores</b>	Canned Fruit	1,019lbs.	(277 tins)
	Canned Vegetables	438 „	( 73 „ )
	Canned Meat	1,525 „	(205 „ )

<b>From Retail Stores</b>	Canned Fruit	30lbs.	( 61 „ )
	Canned Meat	31 „	( 6 „ )
	Meat	270 „	
	Offal	4 „	
	Fish	121 „	
	Cheese	8 „	
	Poultry	105 „	
	Pies	3 „	

During the year it was found appropriate to deal informally with complaints of unsatisfactory foodstuff.

As no serious circumstances came to light it was decided that, long term, it was better to take a reasonable, albeit stern, line with persons technically to blame than to institute Court action, which, certainly in respect of minor transgressions, if successful entails resentment, and if not, tends to reflect adversely on the inspectorate.

Often it is virtually impossible to be absolutely certain where the blame lies. For instance, did the consumer really purchase on the day mentioned and was the article in fact placed as soon as possible in the house refrigerator? Did the retailer place these short life articles in a suitable store immediately after delivery; or were they left until the after lunch resumption of work? Did the delivery man make a mistake and re-issue a returned commodity, as a result of which the shopkeeper would be blamed for bad rotation? And finally, did the manufacturer or wholesaler have trouble with say his refrigeration plant due to an unrealised power cut? Enquiries at each point would inevitably receive a categorical denial.

## Foodshops and Catering Establishments

The number and classification of food premises in the area is as follows :—

Type of premises	Number of premises			
	Total No.	Fitted to comply with Reg. 16	To which Reg. 19 applies	Fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Catering establishments .. ..	77	77	77	77
Schools (Private and State) ..	31	31	31	31
Grocers' Shops .. .. .	68	68	68	68
Sweet Shops .. .. .	16	16	—	—
Butchers' Shops .. .. .	17	17	17	17
Greengrocers' Shops .. ..	11	10	11	9
Confectioners' Shops .. ..	11	11	11	11
Wet Fish Shops .. .. .	3	3	3	3
Fried Fish Shops .. .. .	2	2	2	2
Mobile Fish Shops .. .. .	1	1	1	1
Mobile Fried Fish Shops ..	1	1	1	1
Wholesale Stores .. .. .	2	2	2	2
Totals .. .. .	240	239	224	222

During inspections particular attention is paid to premises where " open " food is sold. The following tables indicate, by trades, the scope of written informal notices issued.

Type of premises visited	Number of informal notices served
Groceries & Provisions .. ..	8
Confectioners .. .. .	2
Bakers & Bakehouses .. ..	2
Cafes & Restaurants .. ..	5
Mobile Shops .. .. .	2
Public Houses & Off Licences ..	3
Hotels .. .. .	1
Total .. .. .	23

The repairs and improvements requested in these notices were as follows :—

Provide adequate storage for food .. .. .	2
Cleanse, repair or renew food preparation tables ..	2
Provide impervious covering to preparation tables ..	3
Cleanse, repair and redecorate walls and ceilings ..	16
Cleanse floor .. .. .	4
Renew or repair floor .. .. .	3
Cleanse shelves .. .. .	3
Cleanse counter .. .. .	2
Renew defective sink .. .. .	1
Renew or repair defective surround to sink .. ..	1



Renew defective draining board .. .. .	2
Provide wash hand basin .. .. .	2
Provide nailbrush, soap and towel .. .. .	3
Display " Wash your hands " notices .. .. .	6
Provide adequate sealed receptacles for waste .. .. .	4
Defrost refrigerator and maintain temperature .. .. .	1
Cleanse refrigerator .. .. .	2
Cleanse sausage machine .. .. .	1
Provide additional refuse bin .. .. .	2

All repairs and improvements outstanding from the previous year were carried out during the year. Except in respect of notices served late in the year, works mentioned in the foregoing table were also completed.

The standard of hygiene in these premises continues, in general, to be satisfactory. Difficulties are often experienced by shopkeepers in small village shops in getting assistants at all and, in more urban shops, to retain them. As in most other spheres, the less changes in staff that occur the better the standard of hygiene that results. During inspections, attempts are of course made to " educate " food handlers and, upon request, talks are given to staff concerned on various aspects of food hygiene.

The use of frozen food continues to expand and, with easily understood printed instructions issued by most wholesalers, there is little excuse for unnecessary product deterioration. After sale storage cannot be controlled but, as most families tend to live on a " from hand to mouth " basis, little trouble is experienced.

There is some evidence that a few traders are inclined to think that the provision of refrigerated counters is sufficient to overcome any difficulties in relation to keeping periods. Complaints of stale commodities are usually founded on lack of elementary rotation of stock and for which a " new assistant " usually gets the blame.

In conclusion, one ought to admit that a better informed—and therefore more fastidious — housewife has had no small influence on the more presentable appearance of food shops today. This has not always extended to the " out of sight " parts of the premises as most inspectors could readily confirm.

## Meat Inspection

There are no slaughterhouses in use in the district.

## Poultry Dressing and Packing

There is as yet no legal obligation on a local authority to provide an inspection service for poultry slaughtered for food. With about 5,000 public health inspectors available for all purposes and an estimated weekly throughput of five to six million birds, this is fortunate! Efforts are, however, made to maintain a general oversight over inspection as suggested in Circular 21/61.

Summarised, appropriate figures are:

No. of poultry processing premises within the district .. .. .	3
No. of visits to these premises .. .. .	137
Total number of birds processed during the year .. .. .	24,000
Types of birds processed :—turkeys and broilers	
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	Less than 1%
Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption ..	85lbs.

## Local Authority and Private Schools

Inspections of all schools are included in the Department's routine workload. Whilst local authority schools continue in general to be very

satisfactory, a marked improvement was effected in the kitchen facilities of two private schools, following representations the previous year.

### **Homes (for the Elderly) registered under Section 37 of the National Assistance Act, 1948**

Two of the five registered homes are administered by the East Sussex County Council, the remainder by other organisations. Satisfactory conditions were noted upon inspection.

### **Other establishments**

Visits to a remand home and youth centre revealed compliance with appropriate regulations.

### **Premises registered under Section 16**

Thirty-five specific visits were made to the following premises where conditions in general were found satisfactory:—

No. of premises used for the sale of ice-cream	.. ..	112
No. of rooms used for the preparation of sausages	..	7
No. of rooms used for the preparation of meat by cooking		5
No. of rooms used for brining/pickling of meat	.. ..	1

## **HOUSING**

With the continued influx of new legislative responsibilities coinciding with local staff shortage, the impetus in this sphere has been directed towards the maximum practicable implementation of the Improvement Grant Scheme.

No formal representations in respect of unfit houses were made during the year. Informally, 19 dwellings, which had approached the state of being technically unfit, were extensively improved and brought into a fit condition, the " carrot " of grant assistance having been the deciding influence in most cases.

The issue in April of Cmnd. No. 3602 " Old Houses into New Homes," had a definite influence on grant applications during the year. With the knowledge that the Government—with all party support—intended to introduce a more lucrative grant scheme where the intention was to include, for the first time, certain (undefined) repairs, people tended to postpone applications in the hope of benefiting from the better terms somewhat vaguely promised.

Nevertheless, 38 discretionary and 3 standard grants were approved during the year, bringing the totals since the inception of the scheme to 1,041 and 89 respectively. In most cases a fair amount of repair work was included.

Payments during the year of £10,586 for discretionary and £383 for standard grants brought the accumulated totals at the end of the year to £271,185 and £8,641 respectively.

It is interesting to recall that nearly sixty per cent. of houses so far improved have been tenanted.

As would be anticipated in a southern district of this type, " mass " slum complexes do not exist and, as in the past, future housing work will be directed on an individual basis. One can no longer place too much reliance on the categorisation data of the post war Housing Survey. Very many of the recorded sub-standard houses have become owner-occupied and, sometimes without grant aid, have been transformed into excellent living units. Against this, in the year following this report an isolated " category 1 " dwelling was found (as a result of an application for a Certificate of Dis-repair) to have deteriorated sufficiently to merit action under Section 72 of the new Housing Act (1969).

**Rent Act 1957: Certificate of Disrepair**

With the virtual conclusion of publicity under this head, the Act is rarely implemented today. The " qualification certificate " procedure, which it is anticipated will be incorporated under the new Housing Act, is likely in the future to be used instead.

Only one application was dealt with during the year and the following indicates the various stages leading up to final cancellation. In addition the County Court dealt with an objection by the landlord.

No. of applications for certificates	..	..	..	..	1
No. of decisions not to issue certificates	..	..	..		1
No. of applications by Landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	..	..	..	..	1
No. of objections by tenants to cancellation of certificate	..				1
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenant's objection	..	..	..	..	1
Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	..	..	..		1

**MOVEABLE DWELLINGS**

Routine visits are made to caravans on licensed sites which, because of the imposition of stricter Conditions, are steadily being improved and in general were found to be satisfactory.

A relatively small group of itinerants have created problems in the southern part of the district. In co-operation with the County Council this authority recognises that this is a matter which must be dealt with and, in respect of genuine " locals ", negotiations are in hand to provide a permanent supervised site for these caravan dwellers. The long term policy is to make permanent housing available.

**BATHING POOLS**

In addition to sporadic bathing in two large lakes and a river, one pool is available to the public and seven provided within school premises.

One of twenty-two samples submitted for bacteriological examination proved unsatisfactory. This was traced to insufficient chlorination during heavy loading in a hot spell. The dosage was increased and repeat samples were reported as being satisfactory.

**ARDINGLY SHOW GROUND**

The first show on this new " permanent " site arranged for 1967, indicated the main problems that had to be dealt with. As a result, the 1968 South of England Show passed without any real trouble. The much larger " Expo '68 "—in spite of " new " organisers—also passed with very little difficulty indeed, apart from near chaos traffic conditions, which aspect is not relevant to this report.

The organisation of mass catering is always difficult, particularly as only a nucleus of trained staff is available. Contrary to initial worries, no problem arose in respect of the main experimental drainage plant, whilst the organisation by this Council, of cesspool emptying and refuse collection adequately met the circumstances. Nevertheless the use of cesspools on a permanent site can only be accepted as a short term expedient in view of the high initial cost of providing permanent facilities. Close liaison exists with the Society's officers.



OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Fifteen contraventions were noted at five of the twenty premises receiving a general inspection during the year, as follows:—

Cleanliness .. .. .	4
Overcrowding .. .. .	—
Temperature .. .. .	2
Lighting .. .. .	—
Sanitary conveniences .. .. .	—
Washing facilities .. .. .	2
Clothing accommodation .. .. .	1
Seats (sedentary workers) .. .. .	—
Floors, passages and stairs .. .. .	4
Fencing exposed parts of machinery .. .. .	1
First Aid—General provision .. .. .	1

One accident—of a minor nature—was reported during the year. For statistical purposes the following tables are incorporated:—

TABLE A—Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices .. .. .	—	43	3
Retails Shops .. .. .	3	119	14
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	2	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ..	—	25	2
Fuel storage depots .. .. .	—	5	—
Totals .. .. .	3	194	20

Table B

No. of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises .. 170

TABLE C—Analysis of Persons Employed in registered premises by workplace

<i>Class of workplace</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>
Offices .. .. .	294
Retail shops .. .. .	383
Wholesale departments, warehouses ..	44
Catering establishments open to the public ..	154
Canteens .. .. .	24
Fuel storage depots .. .. .	16
	915

Total males—403  
Total females—512

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

Six premises remain licensed under the above Order. Our experience suggests that due to high collection costs and the additional volume of sewage to be dealt with, farmers are tending towards an increased use of dry foods. The premises tend to be remote and only one complaint of smell was received during the year.

### FACTORIES

During the year 42 routine visits were made and no statutory action was found to be necessary.

#### 1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	98	40	3	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	101	42	3	—

#### 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspec- tor	By H.M. Inspec- tor	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) ..	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient .. .. .	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work) .. .. .	1	1	—	—	—
Totals ..	4	4	—	1	—



## OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel Making, etc.	6	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—

## INFESTATION

### (a) General

Although the Department does not undertake general disinfestation work as a routine, the following treatments were carried out in special cases:—

No. of premises treated for fly infestation	..	10
No. of premises treated for cockroaches	..	2
No. of premises treated for ants	.. ..	4
No. of premises treated for fleas	.. ..	1

### (b) Rodent Control

The operative (who has a small van provided) carried out (free of charge) treatments to 261 dwellings and (at a charge—£52 during the year) to 38 business premises or farms.

Naturally Council owned properties are treated as necessary during regular routine visits, whilst where appropriate, visits by the Public Health Inspectors to food and other premises also include enquiries under this head.

A summary of information in respect of all premises is as follows:—

### Private Dwellings

No. of dwellings surveyed, or visited as a result of notification	.. ..	284
“ “ “ where treatment was carried out	.. ..	261
Total number of treatments carried out to private dwellings	.. ..	314
“ “ “ visits to private dwellings	.. ..	1235

## Business Premises

No. of food shops surveyed, or visited as a result of notification .. ..	3
.. .. food shops where treatment was carried out .. ..	3
.. .. catering establishments (including hotels and schools) surveyed, or visited as a result of notification .. ..	16
.. .. catering establishments where treatment was carried out ..	14
.. .. other premises surveyed, or visited as a result of notification ..	20
.. .. other premises where treatment was carried out .. ..	16
.. .. farms surveyed, or visited as a result of notification .. ..	126
.. .. farms where infestations were found: In survey .. ..	23
By notification .. ..	5
—	28
.. .. farms where treatment was carried out .. ..	5
Total number of treatments carried out at business premises .. ..	50
.. .. visits to business premises .. ..	324

## Council Property (Sewage Works, Refuse Tips, etc.)

Total number of visits .. ..	378
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## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Investigations were carried out, where appropriate, in respect of cases of infectious disease mentioned earlier in this report. In addition to procuring specimens for submission to the Public Health Laboratory, certain disinfections were carried out and contacts visited. Notifications from port and airport authorities of actual contacts, or of persons entering the Country from lands where endemic infectious disease exists, were followed up in the usual way.

## HAIRDRESSERS' AND BARBERS' ESTABLISHMENTS

Conditions in the 12 permanent and one mobile establishments were in general satisfactory, only minor infringements—dealt with “on the spot”—coming to light.

## CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Two applications for “prior approval” under Section 3, and one application in respect of Section 10 were received and dealt with during the year.

Whilst more premises are now brought into control the increase in the exemption limit as regards burner output is perhaps a retrograde step.

## NATIONAL SURVEY OF AIR POLLUTION

On behalf of the County Council this Department operates two automatic sampling machines, one at Balcombe Victory Hall and one at the Balcombe Water Tower. Regular weekly visits are made and the results of titrations or reflectometer readings transmitted to Warren Spring Laboratory for incorporation in national statistics. Routine maintenance—mainly to the air pumps—is carried out.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Parish Councils arrange for local labour to undertake cleaning of these premises; this Council pays an agreed weekly contribution towards this and supplies certain cleansing materials.

In spite of some difficulties in recruiting labour, the Parish Councils, in the main, perform this public service in a commendable way.

## COMPLAINTS

In addition to complaints received and dealt with during routine visits to other premises, the following complaints were recorded during the year :—

Overflowing cesspools	..	..	..	6
Drainage .. .. .	..	..	..	16
Housing defects	..	..	..	5
Rats and Mice .. .. .	..	..	..	372
Fly infestation .. .. .	..	..	..	12
Unsatisfactory living conditions	..	..	..	1
Sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	3
Keeping of pigs or poultry	..	..	..	30
Dust and smoke nuisance	..	..	..	12
Noise nuisance .. .. .	..	..	..	7
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	13
				<hr/>
				477
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One tarmac plant in the district gave rise to sporadic complaints of dust emission, but regular visits resulted in the nuisance being kept to within reasonable limits having regard to the " best practical means " defence that would be anticipated to be forthcoming at any Court proceedings.

Noise and fume complaints in respect of an " industrialised " village in the west of the district were investigated and some improvements effected. The fume aspect was subsequently found to come within the jurisdiction of H.M. Alkali Inspector and it is appropriate here to record the helpful liaison that exists with this officer who is always willing to fit in a visit and give us the benefit of his specialised knowledge where a special problem is encountered.

Many of the complaints received could be categorised as " frivolous " and many are in respect of matters not the concern of a local authority. In total, much time is given up in providing " unofficial " advice in these matters and probably some benefit results.











